

Message Text

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PAGE 01 USUN N 04376 130008Z

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SUBJECT: 31ST UNGA: SECOND COMMITTEE GENERAL DEBATE - OCTOBER 11

REF: USUN 4312

1. ON OCTOBER 11, SECOND COMMITTEE HEARD GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENTS BY REPRESENTATIVES OF DEMOCRATIC YEMEN, INDIA, SRI LANKA, ISRAEL, PLOAND, BULGARIA, AND CHILE. THE DEVELOPING COUNTRY REPRESENTATIVES ESSENTIALLY DECRIED THE LACK OF PROGRESS IN AGREE-ING ON SPECIFIC MEASURES OF ALLEVIATE THEIR PROBLEMS. SPECIFICALLY MENTIONED IN THIS CONTEXT WERE THE FAILURE TO AGREE ON A REPLENISHMENT OF THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT ASSOCIATION AND ON INCREAS-ING THE LENDING ABILITY OF THE WORLD BANK, SHORTFALLS IN CONCESSIONAL ASSISTANCE, AND THE FAILURE TO DEAL EFFECTIVELY WITH THE GROWING DEBT PROBLEM. AS REGARDS COMMODITIES, THERE WAS A GENERAL APPEAL FOR DEVELOPED COUNTRIES TO SHOW THE NECESSARY POLITICAL WILL TO PERMIT PROGRESS IN THE UNCTAD NEGOTIA-TIONS.

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PAGE 02 USUN N 04376 130008Z

2. IN WHAT WAS CLEARLY THE MOST IMPRESSIVE STATEMENT

OF THE DAY, THE SRI LANKA REPRESENTATIVE CALLED ON THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO SERIOUSLY CONSIDER THE RESULTS OF THE RECENT MEETING OF THE NON-ALIGNED COUNTRIES AS REPRESENTING THE FUNDAMENTAL VIEWS OF A MAJORITY OF UN MEMBERS. HE WARNED THAT UNLESS SIGNIFICANT PROGRESS WERE MADE IN THE CONFERENCE ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION IN THE NEXT MONTH, THE G-77 WOULD NOT CONTINUE TO PARTICIPATE, AND SAID THAT EFFORTS SHOULD BE DIRECTED TOWARD DEVELOPING A NEW STRATEGY FOR THE THIRD DEVELOPMENT DECADE RATHER THAN REVISING THE CURRENT STRATEGY.

3. THE ISRAELI STATEMENT CONSCIOUSLY AVOIDED ALL POLITICAL ISSUES, WHILE LINING THE GOI UP SPURELY ON THE SIDE OF DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ON ECONOMIC ISSUES. THE SOVIET BLOC REPRESENTATIVES CONTINUED TO PARROT THE LINE AS PUT FORTH IN THE USSR STATEMENT.
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